

ABSTRACT

In one embodiment, a needle guide is attached to the end of an ultrasonic probe in a manner such that the needle will follow a known trajectory under control of the needle guide. The surgeon then positions the needle guide by looking at the ultrasound image formed from the ultrasound radiated from the probe. In one embodiment, the needle guide has a release mechanism that allows the needle (or other medical device) that had been positioned in the guide to remain in the patient when the probe is removed. In one embodiment, the needle guide is designed to be releasably mounted to a bracket which, in turn, is releasably mounted to the end of the probe.